IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring data from a first application having a legacy data base located with a legacy data base management system with a first format to a second application located within said legacy data base management system employing a second format which is incompatible with said first format under control of a user terminal which provides a client with in interface to said legacy data base management system comprising:
 - a. determining said first format associated with said data from said legacy data base of said first application;
 - b. ascertaining a location of said data <u>within said legacy</u> data <u>base</u>;
 - c. packing an identifier of said <u>first</u> format and an identifier of said location <u>within said legacy data base</u> <u>of said first application</u> into a message having a predefined format;
 - d. transferring said message from said first application to said second application <u>via said legacy data base</u> <u>management system;</u>

- e. unpacking said message to determine said <u>first</u> format and said location <u>within said legacy data base of said</u> first <u>application</u>; and
- f. accessing said data by said second application using said indication of said <u>first</u> format and said indication of said location <u>within said legacy data</u> <u>base of said first application</u>.
- 2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said data further comprises a plurality of data objects.
- 3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein said predefined format further comprises Extended Markup Language.
- 4. (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein said transferring step further comprises transferring via a publically accessible digital data communication network.
- 5. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.
- 6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus <u>having a plurality of</u>
 computers providing data processing functions comprising:

- a. a first application program located within a first computer and having a data base with a first format;
 b. a second application program located within a second computer and having a legacy data base with a second format which is incompatible with said first format responsively coupled to said first application program;
- c. a message having a preexisting format generated by said first application program for transfer to said second application program;
- d. a data object responsively coupled to said first application program having an indication of a location and having a an indication of said second format; and
- e. wherein said message contains a definition of said location and said second format.
- 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a publically accessible digital data communication network wherein said first application program is responsively coupled to said second application program via said publically accessible digital data network.
- 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said preexisting format further comprises Extended Markup Language.

- 9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising a user terminal which provides a client with in interface to said legacy data base management system containing said first application program.
- 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.
- 11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus <u>which provides</u> <u>communication between</u> comprising:
 - a. first application program means for providing a user interface via a user terminal which permits a client to interface with a computer system;
 - b. second application program means responsively coupled to said first application program means for offering a data processing service;
 - c. data object means responsively coupled to said first application program means having a location and a format; and
 - d. message generation means responsively coupled to said first application program means for preparing a message having a preexisting format for transfer of said location and format of said data object means from first application program means to said second application program means.

- 12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said providing means further comprises means for generating a second service request.
- 13. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 12 further comprising publically accessible digital data communication network means for responsively coupling said first application program means and said second application program means.
- 14. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network means further comprises the Internet.
- 15. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said preexisting format further comprises Extended Markup Language.
- 16. (Currently Amended) A data processing system having a first application program located within a first computer and having a data base with a first format responsively coupled to a second application program located within a second computer and having a legacy data base with a second format comprising:
- a. a data object having an indication of a location of said legacy data base within said second computer and an indication of said second format of said legacy data base;

- b. a message having a preexisting format for transfer from said first application program to said second application program; and
- c. wherein said message contains said location of said legacy data base within said second computer and a definition of said second format.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 16 further comprising a publically accessible digital data communication network which responsively couples said first application program to said second application program.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 17 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 18 further comprising a user terminal housing said first application program.
- 20. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 19 wherein said preexisting format further comprises Extended Markup Language.

- 21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus <u>including a data</u>
 processing system comprising:
 - a. a user terminal which provides a client with an interface to said data processing system having a first application program;
 - b. a second application program responsively coupled to said first application program via a publically accessible digital data network;
 - c. a message having a preexisting Extended Markup Language format generated by said first application program for transfer to said second application program;
- d. a data object responsively coupled to said first application program having a location and having a second format which is incompatible with said preexisting Extended Markup Language; and
- e. wherein said message contains a definition of said location and said second format.